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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back. We hope that you and your families had a very relaxing, restful Easter break. We know how excited the class will be, looking forward to our much anticipated Residential trip to the Wye Valley on Wed 17th – Fri 19th April. Do please visit [Summer Term 2024 | Christ Church C of E School \(christchurchschool-chelt.co.uk\)](https://christchurchschool-chelt.co.uk) for updates whilst we are away.

Topics

We have a wonderful term ahead of us. Our history topic is Cheltenham Spa - How did the discovery of spa water influence the development of our town? Our next Science topic is Living Things and their Habitats. Knowledge organisers will be sent home detailing some important information about these units along with some key vocabulary. Please ensure these are kept somewhere prominent at home so that children can refer to them regularly. Our school value for this half term is: **Compassion**

Swimming and Brass lessons - This term, Year 4 are lucky enough to take part in swimming lessons starting **Thurs 9th May**. Information has already been sent out on this. We are also very excited about starting weekly Brass lessons with Mr Storer from Gloucestershire Brass Band Association.

Homework

Spellings - Please continue to practise the spellings that are sent home on a Monday in readiness for Friday's spelling quiz.

Reading – Children all have their own Oxford Reading Buddy log in recorded in their reading diary. They are enjoying reading these online books and completing the quizzes which then tracks their comprehension skills. Please do continue to hear them read aloud and encourage them to answer questions independently, which will help refine their retrieval skills. Whether it is these online books or a paper book you are sharing, your child is expected to read at least 4 times per week as part of their homework. Please record when they have read in their reading diaries.

Times Tables – A reminder that your child will be sitting the online Year 4 Multiplication Check this term. Do please do as much practice as possible at home to boost their confidence levels and assist their fast recall of these facts. As mentioned at parents' evenings, this website provides a very close simulation to the test. [MTC - Multiplication Tables Check - URBrainy.com](https://www.mtc-multiplication.com) It will provide you with a good insight into your child's ability when answering the 6 second questions. It also provides a score and highlights the questions/ times tables facts they need to consolidate.

Children are still expected to complete 4 sessions of Times Tables Rockstars each week, outside of school hours. This is to support them with their times tables recall and confidence ahead of the Year 4 Multiplication Check as discussed. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes,

Mrs Burton and Mrs Sheppard.